

Bell companies operate an "essential facility", and should have to accommodate other ISP firms that wish to purchase access from them. This wholesale provisioning will stimulate competition and be of benefit to the consumers. To not do so would cripple the '96 Telecom Act. Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country. MY ADDITIONAL COMMENT: When the government forced the telephone companies to split, it was the every day consumer who was hit with higher telephone bills and high long distance bills. NOW you want to help them even more! Doesn't the government have something better to do than look for ways to hurt an already depressed economy. Give us a break. And then maybe we will keep you in office.